

St. Helens Mist

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DAIRY FARM HAND COMMITTS SUICIDE

NEILS RASMUSSEN TIRES
OF LIFE AND ENDS
IT WITH ROPE.

NO KNOWN CAUSE FOR THE ACT

Employee of Clover Hill Farm
at Deer Island Hangs Him-
self in Empty Silo.

Neils Rasmussen, a milker on the Clover Hill Dairy Farm, near Deer Island, committed suicide last Wednesday by hanging himself. Rasmussen was a Dane who had been in America for about three years, but had not learned the English language to any extent and was rather backward. He was a good worker and valuable man about the place. Early in the week he received a letter from his sister in Denmark, after which he seemed to be rather morose, but, the letter contained nothing that would induce him to commit suicide, unless it could have been a desire to return to his home and an inability to do so.

When the dinner hour arrived Wednesday, all the other men on the farm were at the house, and Rasmussen failed to show up. After waiting a little while, Mr. Hawley, one of the managers of the farm, went in search of him. He looked around the barns and buildings and finally opened a door in the silo and there found the body of Rasmussen dangling at the end of a rope. He had evidently crawled up on one of the girders and tied the rope to an upper girder, then fastened the rope around his neck and stepped off which left his feet about four feet above the floor. Life was extinct when he was found. Undertaker T. S. White was called and took charge of the body and brought it to St. Helens where it is held awaiting instructions from friends living near Scappoose.

No reason can be found for the rash act of the young man. He had some money on his person, and had wages for a month earned. He had no other affairs that were known and the only reason that could be figured out for the suicide was homesickness or a desire to return to his home in Denmark.

COLUMBIA'S SHARE WILL BE \$48,280

State Tax Commission Deter-
mines State Taxes.

Salem, Ore., Dec. 16.—Announce-
ment was made today by the State
Tax Commission that the state levy
for 1915 would be 3.34 mills. The
levy is based on a total valuation of
\$932,413,080, and it will produce a
total tax of \$3,112,000. The state
tax each county must pay follows:

Baker	70,546
Benton	39,423
Clackamas	111,842
Clatsop	77,837
Columbia	48,280
Coos	65,676
Crook	48,429
Curry	12,174
Douglas	85,782
Gilliam	29,094
Grant	23,138
Harney	27,432
Hood River	33,364
Jackson	97,278
Josephine	28,400
Klamath	48,413
Lake	28,413
Lane	122,803
Lincoln	24,012
Linn	99,211
Malheur	39,896
Marion	138,444
Morrow	31,894
Multnomah	1,182,010
Polk	56,710
Sherman	28,400
Tillamook	53,176
Umatilla	136,604
Union	64,412
Walla	36,814
Wasco	52,054
Washington	89,535
Wheeler	12,750
Yamhill	69,273

ST. HELENS FOLKS ENJOY GOOD SKATING

Ponds and Lakes Crowded
With Jolly Young Folks.

During the past week the people of this community had a chance to enjoy some excellent ice skating on the ponds and lakes near town. Every evening this week crowds of young folks and some older ones, have been on the lake near the Milton-Crewe Bridge and the skating has been really very good. The best place yet found though is the Ballagh lake across the river in Washington. Some of the young folks went over there yesterday and found a lake nearly five miles long covered with smooth ice and they had a very fine time. The cold weather is still with us and from appearances the skating will be good for several days yet.

NOTES OF INTEREST FROM HIGH SCHOOL

Interesting Program Rendered
by Students.

Monday afternoon Dr. Emil Enna gave a musical demonstration consisting of the following numbers: Song, School America Preparatory Exercises by Grades. Song, Fifth Grade The Swallow Song, Third and Fourth Grades. Ding Dong Song Song, Seventh and Eighth Grades. Cradle Song Merna Yeomans and Dorothy John Duet Song, High School Silent Night Piano Solo, Lois Clear Selected Song, School My Maryland Piano Solo, Dr. Enna Selected

Two members of our High School Debating Society recently attended a debate at the Yankton Grange, and incidentally mixed up in it. They won the negative side of the question of Government Ownership of Railways. This being the county debating question, it would appear that we have at least a fighting chance in winning the debate.

The teachers have lately acquired the habit of passing little "billet doux" to the pupils on Tuesday of each week; at least that is what we thought them to be until we opened them, when to our disappointment we found them to be "below grade slips."

All the High School teachers and pupils who can skate, and some who cannot, spent a number of evenings this week on the ice which is formed on the several small lakes near town.

Mamie Dixon was absent Monday, on account of sickness.

Frank Roberson, who has been ill at his home in St. Johns for the past several days, has again returned to school.

We have a number of regular "Muts" in school.

The Student Body of the High School has been re-organized with Dale Perry president and Fred Morgue vice president.

This organization has charge of all social and athletic functions of the High School for the ensuing year.

At the present writing the treasury is depleted. At a meeting of the body, held last Monday morning it was planned to give an entertainment after the holiday season. We are in need of basket-ball and track equipment, and hope in this way to raise the needed fund.

The interest taken in the work of the High School by the towns people is highly appreciated by the students. Visitors to regular classes are always heartily welcomed.

The members of the High School wish you all a Very Merry Christmas.
EDDIE LABARE.

SUPERINTENDENT HAS VISITED SCHOOLS

Quincy District Clerk Is De-
faulted of \$1500.

County Superintendent J. W. Allen made an official visit to the Quincy school last week. The clerk of that district has lately defaulted to the extent of nearly \$1500 and the affairs of the district are consequently rather mixed. An effort is being made to locate the missing clerk of the district, but as yet no word has been received from him.

MUTS MAKE UNFORTUNATES TO SMILE

Slogan Adopted by the St. Helens Muts Seems to
Strike Popular Chord.

INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE ARE ACTIVELY AT WORK

Dance and Show to be Given Saturday Night to Raise Funds
for Relieving Unfortunates--Program to be
Best Ever Given in the City.

"Make Unfortunates To Smile," is the slogan adopted by the Muts of St. Helens, and they are surely accomplishing the object. During the past week the investigating committees have been busy and have reported several cases of unfortunates whom the Muts have made to smile with provisions, clothing and fuel. Membership cards have been printed and many people have purchased them. The minimum charge for these cards is 50 cents, but some people have paid more than that sum for them. Badges have also been printed and sold at 10 cents each which brought in a neat sum. The Muts boxes which were distributed around town in various business houses were canvassed Wednesday afternoon and there was found to be \$30 in nickels, dimes and pennies in them. The banner box was at Estabrook & Cramer's which contained \$9.00. Many donations of clothing, fruits, vegetables and other necessities have come in and the relief work is being carried out by an enthusiastic bunch of real Muts.

Arrangements have been completed for holding a special attraction at the Columbia Theatre Saturday night at which time a program of local talent will be rendered which will no doubt be one of the most pleasing entertainments ever held in the city. The program is given be-

low. Mr. P. T. Evans, the proprietor of the theater has donated the use of the theater to a three reel movie feature the program will be rendered. A charge of 10 and 20 cents will be made for the performance and if the attendance justifies it a second performance will be given immediately after the first. After the show a dance will be given in the City Hall where all those who wish to enjoy a first class dance will be accommodated. The dance program is in charge of Rees Hall and he with his assistants will see to it that this will be the very best dance ever given in the city. The money is needed for relief work. The entertainment will be good and the dance will be fine. Every person in the community is invited to attend. Following is the program to be rendered at the Columbia Theatre:

Three reels of latest and best pictures.

Trex Freganzay, the famous heel and toe dancer.

Lou Dockstadter and Billy Pringle, the famous comedians.

Chicago Quartette of sweet singers.

The story of the escaped maniac by an eminent elocutionist.

William Jennings Bryan, a chautauqua lecturer of renown.

Other special numbers are being arranged, besides some real local musical talent.

COUNCILMAN LARABEE DESCRIBES KNOCKER

St. Helens Ore., December 14, '14.
To The Public:—

An editorial in the November 27th issue of the Mist, should be read and reread by every citizen and especially the business men of St. Helens, as it contains the best advice that could be dealt out to an intelligent public. And the part to take in the largest doses is don't knock your own town; for God sake don't be a grouchy; when the good Lord made this world he never intended the grouchy to be in it and in the beginning he wasn't; the grouchy is the result of too much civilization.

He is the product of an overfed and pampered race. The grouchy is half brother to the pessimist and the cynic and brother-in-law to the devil. He goeth about with a very very face and a taste in his mouth that would make hamburger cheese smell like lilies of the valley. It is his purpose on earth to fill in the vacation periods of the old devil himself and keep up the best he can the misery the old devil started, till he goes back on the job.

A grouchy gets more grouchy; it grows and whether in the family, the office or in the marts of business, he upsets all the finer instincts of those about him, and makes grouching a business. Laugh and the world laughs with you, grouchy and you will have others grouchy; that is not just what the poet said but it is so.

There is no place for a grouchy except in an island where boats never land and the sun never shines. When I first struck St. Helens six years ago, it was just coming to life, and like all country villages it came into existence, with a tin can tied to it. But it has come through with bells on. Where the hog roared for grub the ball fan roots for his club. We have stood and watched the three or four passengers get off the train and inquire the way to St. Helens, and then wandering off in the dark seeking whom they might find, and about this time the St. Helens Transfer Company put on a horse-mobility and took passengers to and

from the depot at two bits per, and the next thing we knew this same enterprising company, put on a one lunged speed thieving machine that produced outlandish noises and sulphurous smells and people would climb trees to get out of the way. (But by the way this was the time when Henry Ford was just plain Hank.) At the present time we have automobiles and you can make the round trip for twenty-five cents.

And now it has happened that the Portland settlers have got crowded off the back stairs of the apartment houses and are coming here looking for quiet spots to commune with nature, raise chickens and go back to the city and lie to their office help about picking butter from butter cups. This picture of rustic simplicity and fresh ozone right off the bat, has lured many down here to take a lot, a dollar down and a dollar forever, and they will be taking the lots for all time to come.

But I am here to say we have shed our pinfeathers and the real plumage is sprouting on the baddest dames in town. We have hitched our wagon to a star if the carburetor don't split up the back we will bust a hole in them ilky way and let the moon fall out. We are aiming high, if we miss, good night. When we hit it will make the crack of doom sound like the whisper of a tongue-tied wicrebe. We shaved off our whiskers like our fathers did. We have turned our goose pens into garages. Where lightning bugs poked holes in the darkness intermittently, now the St. Helens Lighting Company jabs holes in our bank account.

We are out of the woods. Let us set up a totem pole at the entrance of our fair city and emblazon on its crude surface, "Watch our speedometer." Let us make every Portlander who enters here salute a wall eyed Joss, and swear by the bones of William Jennings Bryan, of Chautauqua fame, that we have gotten every other village in Columbia County looking like a one watt kerosene lamp with the globe broken.

N. O. LARABEE.

GOOD HOUSEWIFE VERY DISCREET

Exercises Diligence to Avoid
Serving Time Error.

A very pleasing little story is being told about town of a very precise housewife, who, desiring to be fortified against any possibility of confusion when it came time to serve the desert to her Thanksgiving dinner guests. Pie constituted an important part of the desert menu. There were two kinds of pie, and the good housewife, when preparing the pastry, also placed a distinguishing mark in the upper crust. The mince pie was characterized by the letters, "T. M." indicating "tis mince." Being entirely satisfied with this precautionary act, the next in order was to find an appropriate distinguishing mark for the apple pie. Finally it occurred to the good woman to place on these pies the same letters, "T. M." indicating "taint mince." Imagine the dismay when serving time arrived.

TEACHERS TAKE THE EXAMINATION

Twelve applicants are taking teacher's examination at the Court House this week. Superintendent Allen is assisted by Prof. L. L. Baker of the St. Helens High school.

DEPUTY SHERIFF COMES TO TOWN

Charles Brown, of Yankton, moved his family into St. Helens Monday and they are now comfortably located in the Mowery residence, in Columbia Park. Mr. Brown will take up his duties as deputy sheriff the first of January.

FLOATING ICE IN THE RIVER

For the past two days considerable floating ice has been in the river coming from the colder climate. So far river traffic has not been troubled with the ice but it seemed to be coming in greater volume today so that it may have some effect before many days.

PLAY HOUSE FOR KIDDIES COMPLETED

The open air gymnasium at the school house was completed yesterday and turned over to the kids for a play house. The building is about 40x80 feet with open sides and high roof so that apparatus of all kinds may be installed and basket ball played there. The students are very much pleased with their new acquisition.

METHODIST LADIES HOLD BAZAAR

Last week the Ladies of the M. E. Church Aid Society held their annual bazaar and supper in the church parlor. Many beautiful articles were on sale and were quickly taken by purchasers. The supper was one of those delightful affairs which needs no explanation other than to say that it was sumptions.

LOCAL INVENTOR GETS PATENT

Fred Ragan returned this week from Detroit, Mich., where he went about three months ago. Fred has patented an appliance for an automobile of some kind and was making a test of his device by driving a car from here to Detroit. The test was quite successful and the Detroit manufacturers were well pleased with the invention.

CHURCH LADIES MAKE MUCH MONEY

Wednesday afternoon and evening the Ladies' Aid of the Congregational church, held their annual sale of fancy articles at the Guild Hall where a chicken supper was also served from 5 to 8 o'clock. The hall was filled to capacity during most of the afternoon and evening and the sale and supper netted a very comfortable sum to the ladies for their work. The whole affair was a grand success.

ALL IS READY FOR A JAIL BREAK

DEPUTY SHERIFF FINDS
IMPLEMENTS IN BUNK
READY FOR WORK.

PRISONERS ARE REMOVED IN TIME

Saws Made From Knife and
Razor With Intention of
Sawing off the Bars.

Somebody who had been confined in the county jail here had evidently planned on getting out, to judge from the implements found by Deputy White this week. While making up the bunks in the jail this week Mr. White found an old case knife which had been filed into a saw, a razor with saw teeth in and some wire. So far as known no effort had been made to break jail but somebody was getting ready for a try at it.

The last men to occupy the jail were Joe Boyd and Robert Wilson who are being held on a burglary charge to the Grand Jury. These men with the other county prisoners have been taken to Portland for keeping until the Court meets and it is supposed that they were the men who had manufactured the tools for escaping.

OREGON RAILWAY VALUES GIVEN OUT

Public Service Corporations
Contribute to State Funds.

With an apportioned assessment valuation of \$35,813,878 and a real valuation of \$52,035,982, the Oregon-Washington Railroad & Navigation Company leads all public service corporations on the taxroll, according to the State Tax Commission. The Oregon & California Railroad Company, with a real valuation of \$39,649,255, and an apportioned assessed valuation of \$23,823,471 is second. Real and apportioned assessed valuations of a few other large corporations are as follows:

Spokane, Portland & Seattle, real valuation, \$12,939,340; apportioned assessed valuation, \$7,870,284. The Oregon Electric, real valuation, \$3,763,295; The Portland Railway, Light & Power Company, real valuation, \$32,497,295; apportioned assessed valuation, \$20,101,740. The Pacific Telephone & Telegraph Company, real valuation, \$5,601,881; apportioned assessed valuation, \$3,457,491. The Western Union Telegraph Company, real valuation, \$602,379; apportioned assessed valuation, \$427,531.

CENTER PIECE IS GIFT TO MUTS

Mrs. Rosenthal Donates Beau-
tiful Irish Crochet Piece.

Mrs. M. Rosenthal has donated to the Muts a 42 inch center piece of Irish crochet, which is down at Fred Watkins' store and will be given away to some person within the next few days, the proceeds from the sale to be applied to charity. It is a beautiful piece of work and he proceeds from the sale of it will go into the treasury of the Muts for the charitable work being done by them.

DAIRYMAN SELLS MILK ROUTE

Announcement is made in this issue of the transfer of the milk business of A. B. Larson to Cade Brothers. Mr. Larson has built up quite a nice milk delivery business in St. Helens and Cade Brothers have taken the entire management of the business. The new proprietors are experienced men in the business and will continue to serve the patrons in this city with pure milk and cream. Mr. Larson will leave shortly for a trip to Kansas on a visit for a couple of months and upon his return will build a new home on his place near Warren.